

THE OUTCROP.

Devoted to the Mining and Development of the Windermere and Golden Divisions of the District of North East Kootenay.

Book VI., Chapter 23.

Wilmer, B. C., Thursday, November 2, 1905.

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THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT

A Short History by Madison Grant.

The October number of *Outdoor Life*, a sportsman's magazine of the west, published at Denver, Colorado, reproduces from the "Ninth Annual Report of the New York Zoological Society" a paper written by Madison Grant, which appears below. The article is of interest here as the Rocky Mountain Goat is quite numerous in the hills nearby. *Outdoor Life* also produces with the article a number of exceptionally good cuts, four of these cuts are of goat and sheep captured or killed in this valley. Here are the inscriptions appearing under these cuts:

1. "Four Rock Mountain goat and sheep, in the N. Y. Zoological park. Born in spring of 1904; captured near Ft. Steele and Michel, B. C."
2. "Rocky Mountain goat, killed in Spillimachee valley, B. C., November, 1905. Total length with tail, following convolutions of body, 73 inches; tail, 7 in.; hind foot, 12 in.; height at shoulder, 41 in.; measurements taken after mounting. On exhibition in Am. Museum of Nat'l History."
3. "Front view of mounted head of goat. Property of Madison Grant. On exhibition in the American Museum of Nat'l History."
4. "Skull of goat, killed by Madison Grant, Sept., 1903, in main Rocky mountains, east of Columbia River, south of Golden, B. C. Measurements in inches: Right horn, 10 1/2 in.; left, 10 3/4 in.; spread of horns, 4 1/2 in. These measurements are the largest on record with a known history."

Here is Mr. Grant's short history of the mountain goat:

The white or Rocky mountain goat shares with the mule-deer the honor of being the least known of game animals of North America and descriptions of it written even as recently as ten years ago are calculated, as it may seem, this animal is confused with white mountain sheep and even with deer. The explanation of this lack of knowledge lies in the extremely remote and inaccessible habitat of the goat, which begins in the northwestern United States, among the highest peaks of the Rocky mountains and of the coast range and extends north, through British Columbia, into Alaska. The mule-deer in most natural histories, relating to this animal, is scanty and based on very inadequate information, since the opportunity to see and hunt it has not been granted to many. In captivity we have had on the Atlantic Coast only eight immature specimens, two in Boston in 1892, two in Philadelphia in 1893, and the four now (1905) living in the New York Zoological Park. One well grown male is living at this time in the London Zoological garden.

As a result of this scarcity of direct knowledge, many myths have gathered around this mountain dweller, leading, as usual in our North American game animals, to an abundance of inappropriate names. The name "goat" is objectionable, but will have to stand until some better term can be found. The Stoney Indians in Alberta use the name "Waputek," and in Chinook, the universal jargon of the northwest, the goat is called "snoo Mawitch" (white deer). Neither of these terms is likely to become common. It is not a goat, not even closely related to it, but is the sole representative on this continent of a very aberrant group of so-called mountain animals, known to science as the Rupicaprinae, a subfamily of the Bovidae.

The most striking character of the Rocky mountain goat is its almost pure white coat. This coloring is in perfect harmony with an environment of snow fields, but in some parts of its range it renders the animal unnecessarily conspicuous. Until white snow appeared on the scene, it made very little difference to the goat whether his enemies could see him or not, as his home was beyond the reach of human, wolf, and for the most part of bear, and until other game became scarce the Indians did not hunt this inaccessible peak-bearer too closely. All the types of Oreamnos (Rock mountain goat) are characterized by this white coat and the only exception is in the well authenticated occurrence of goat in the Selkirk of southern British Columbia, with a clearly defined dark brown line extending along the center of the back and terminating in an almost black tail. This color variation appears to be fixed in both the summer and winter pelage, as the markings were found on the skins of goats killed both in July and

unknown and unfavorable condition of food supply which prevents Oreamnos from reaching the extreme north. This is perhaps the most interesting and difficult of the problems affecting the distribution of the genus.

Along the Pacific coast of the United States the mountains are not sufficiently precipitous to attract the goat, and consequently that animal is found only at some distance inland, but in northwestern British Columbia and in southern Alaska, the Rockies approach the coast in stupendous chains, which swing westward through the Mount St. Elias range. Through all the country the goat occupies the coast region from Prince William Sound south nearly to the American border. They are not found in any of the adjacent islands.

Along these coast ranges goat are much more numerous than in the main Rockies, owing probably to the presence of forests high up in the mountains and in close contact with the cliffs where the goats live, together with a copious supply of water. At all events the conditions are certainly favorable. North of Skagway goat do not extend inland much beyond the summit of the coast range, and do not again occur until the main Rockies are reached, hundreds of miles to the east. The goat in these eastern mountains are, in all likelihood specifically distinct from the coast goat, as practically all the other mammals of these two distinct latitudinal areas are representative species.

The writer has carefully traced out the legends regarding the occurrence of goat in Colorado, Utah, and California. There are persistent stories about the existence of white goat in Colorado, which, when investigated, seems to have their origin in some domestic goat which are known to have escaped from captivity. It is, however, a certainty that Oreamnos has not existed in Colorado since the arrival of the white man, and there is no proof of its previous existence there. This statement is made after a full examination of the evidence.

The purpose of this paper has been to gather and summarize the known facts about this interesting animal and it has been necessary to discard a large amount of data contained in the literature of the subject.

(To be concluded next issue.)

DISTRICT CROPPINGS

And Other Items of Interest in a General Way

Meers, B. R. Bruce and G. A. Starke returned last week from their trip up the coast to Skagway and Windy Arm to inspect some mining property. Both gentlemen affirm that the Windermere district "looks good" to them after visiting the black north coast. They also visited the coast cities and had a good time generally. Speaking of mining Mr. Starke said he did not see anything he would exchange the Selkirk for. Mr. Bruce, several years ago, when a reporter called upon him, yet he started in to give what promised to be a very interesting interview, but as one after another visitors crowded in the reporter gave up after more than an hour had passed by. However, Mr. Bruce said he had enjoyed the trip all things considered, but he had no intention of leaving this valley to locate there. He said there was a vast difference between this country and Windy Arm, and entirely in favor of this. Then he commenced to give a description of that northern country. Mr. Bruce said it is

a very bleak looking place. The timber line is only about 4500 above the sea level, whereas here the timber line is about 8500. The mountains are rounded off at the summits, evidently rounded by the action of the glaciers. Where he climbed the mountain the timber line was about 4500 feet and above that there was only some very scrubby brush. The climbing through this scrub and then up over the smooth rounded summit was very difficult. When Mr. Bruce had reached this far another caller arrived and when he left another appeared—then it was noon and the reporter gave Mr. Bruce a rest, but hopes to be more successful next time.

On the 18th instant the "Laborers' Co-operative Gold, Silver & Copper Mining Company" commenced their smelter run under the direction of its mining engineer, Frank N. Anderson. After running but a short time Mr. Anderson discovered that the work could not be effectively and economically done owing to the defective work in the original construction and erection of the company's plant. He at once proceeded to close down, run off the charges already in the furnace, and set about to remedy the defects. This accordingly was done and all the ore on hand was smelted. The ore smelted was taken wholly out of the Good Luck claims this summer. Mr. Anderson thinks the test a fair one, as the ore was not picked as heretofore done, but taken in toto as it was found in the veins. Mr. Anderson and the company's manager, Mr. Martin, estimate this run will yield the company upwards of 15 tons of matte of excellent quality.—Star.

A recent Dawson despatch says the Klondike gold production to October 19 was \$7,086,000. The per capita output of the camp for the ten months of 1905 is about \$1,500. No other camp in the world produces such a per capita. The gold output here is figured at \$15 per ounce, while on the American side it is \$16 per ounce. The Klondike, despite the drought, has beaten the Tenana in gold output. The Tenana production was \$6,500,000.

Great improvements are underway at the ranch lately acquired by Mr. H. C. Hammond of Toronto from Messrs. Harris and Jackson, near Windermere. Besides the many improvements in farming generally new buildings are to be erected. A reporter had a glimpse of the plans for the new barn the other day, as which construction has already started and it is laid out in the most convenient and improved form.

There is no use denying that mining in North East Kootenay is quieter than it has been for years. And there is no use denying that the fault is all that of the Kootenay Central Railway Company in not pushing construction as was announced by its president. The mines are straight, and all that is wanting is the railway to make them hum as never before.

Manager Jap. Conlin of the St. Eugene mine, at Moyie, is quoted as saying that work will be resumed at that mine by the first of December and that more men will be employed than heretofore. Thirty new drills have been purchased and are now ready to be sent down to the stages.

W. C. Wells is in Ottawa, and the rumors of W. C. Wells being appointed lieutenant governor of this province are getting active again. Mr. Wells' press agent seems to be a dandy.—Crabbrook Herald. Yes, and wouldn't Mr. Wells make a dandy governor?

Rev. Mr. McKenlie will conduct Presby. church services at Windermere, on the fourth Sunday of each month, and every other Sunday in Windermere at 11 a.m. Atholgar 3 p.m. and Wilmer 7:30 p.m. Try The Outcrop for Job Printing.

IS HERE TO BUY LAND

The last issue of *The Outcrop* contained so much anent big land deals in this valley that some few people were inclined to doubt certain statements made. However, *The Outcrop* can only say that the statements were made after carefully considering the channels from whence they came and we still maintain they are correct so far as we are aware, and have reason to believe they will materialize in the due course of time and events.

Moreover, we are now in a position to strengthen the statement to the effect that a syndicate is negotiating to buy up all the unoccupied land in the Upper Columbia Valley. From what we have since learned it is evident that there are two syndicates, instead of one, seeking to procure this land. And be it remembered that it is now quite the "fashion" to organize land syndicates to deal with big undertakings, and much good is resulting from this system of improving and marketing land. A representative of one of these syndicates is at the present time in the valley looking over the land and it is said ready to make and close deals.

This representative is none other than Mr. H. B. Alexander, now of Calgary, and is well-known throughout Kootenay and Alberta by his various land and mining connections, and is a brother of Mr. Geo. Alexander, the well-known mining man and capitalist.

Mr. Alexander has been through the valley at different times and has had a pretty thorough knowledge of its resources and capabilities for many years. A few weeks ago he made a hurried trip up the river on the Plamigan and bought a block of land near Canal Flat. He drove up from Golden this week and was in Wilmer Tuesday morning, and has since been looking over the country. Although *The Outcrop* did not have the opportunity of interviewing the gentleman we have it on the very best authority that Mr. Alexander is here for the purpose of buying all the land that is offered at reasonable figures.

Any information concerning the other syndicate mentioned cannot be given out at present as their plans are not sufficiently advanced for publication, but in a short time they expect to be ready for business and the facts will be disclosed.

To local men who are delaying the location of pre-emptions *The Outcrop* would say get a move on and do your staking, for things will be happening in land deals right along.

Mining Records.

The following records have been made at the Wilmer Mining Recorder's office:

- ASSAYS.**
Oct. 21—Harold K. and Bullion, on Toly creek, by F. Michelson.
- TRANSACTIONS.**
Oct. 31—J. C. Pate to R. A. Power, 1/2 interest in Harlow, Majestic and Charleston, on Toly creek, consideration \$25,000, Oct. 20.

JUDGE WILSON'S CAREER

The Nelson News gives the following sketch of Judge P. E. Wilson, who has just been appointed for the new judicial district of East Kootenay:

Peire Edward Wilson was born at Bond Head, Simcoe county, Ontario, on the 25th of August, 1872. He received his early education in the public and high schools of his native county. In 1889 he entered Toronto University from which he graduated in 1893, with the degree of B.A. and first class honors. He entered Osgoode Hall at once to begin the study of law. In 1895 he took his LL.B. degree from the Toronto University along with first-class honors. The next year, 1896, he graduated from the law school, winning the gold medal for his year.

The old province of Ontario being

tion, as now, too well provided with learned counsel, Mr. Wilson resolved to locate in British Columbia. He arrived in Nelson in the fall of 1896, and entered the office of W. A. Gallie, with whom he formed a partnership as soon as he was called to the bar of the province.

In 1900 he became city solicitor of Nelson, which position he has filled acceptably and creditably to the present time.

His appointment to the County Court bench will necessitate his early removal from Nelson to Cranbrook.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce is advertising in Glasgow, Scotland, papers for junior clerks to serve in Canada, the salary offered being £50 a year. It is to be hoped the Scotch clerks are too busy to be caught by such offers. By the salary offered it would seem that the Bank of Commerce wants its employees to learn to steal while they are young. Depositors in that institution should carefully consider the matter before the £50-a-year clerks arrive.

A Reddish was taken to the Hospital on Friday from the Dutch creek lumber camp. Dr. Knott pronounced his illness pneumonia, but he is recovering.

Mining, lumbering and agriculture make a great industrial trio and is the one that will make the Columbia Valley the wealthiest in the province.

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W. P. Evans,

Publisher and Proprietor.

WILMER, B.C., THURSDAY, NOV. 2, 1903.

One high grade property in the Boundary is being operated on a somewhat unusual plan, but which is apparently bringing about satisfactory results—at least, so far. A syndicate was formed and divided into 100 shares, the holder of each share agreeing to pay in \$10 per month to the development fund, thus furnishing \$1,000 monthly for operating expenses. If a shareholder drops out he loses what he has paid in, according to agreement. The incentive, says the Phoenix Pioneer, is to stay in the syndicate, especially when a member knows his money is being honestly spent on a promising prospect. The \$1,000 a month thus provided, if kept up and expended judiciously, will go a long distance toward proving up the prospect—and it is more than the man of average means cares to invest individually. In short it gives the members of the syndicate a "fair run for their money" in this co-operative manner. A scheme of this kind ought to be tried on some of the numerous high grade properties of the Windermere district and should be easily promoted.

At Spokane a Boosters' Club, or 150,000-Club, has been formed, which all classes are joining in throngs, and for no other purpose than making known the advantages of Spokane to the outside world, and thereby increasing the population and prosperity of that growing city. If Spokane needs a boosters' club how much more is one needed here? Let us form one! Perhaps we cannot make it as broad as Spokane's, but it may be made longer. Have it reach from the Crow's Nest line right through the two great valleys to the C.P.R. Who will undertake to promote this club? Referring to this club an exchange fittingly remarks: When the Declaration of Independence was signed by the forefathers of the American republic in 1776, one of those attaching his signature thereto remarked that they would all find it wise to hang together or they would be liable to hang separately. It was true at that time, and it is just as true today as then, whatever the line of effort may be. Little can be accomplished without unity of purpose among individuals, every one working to the same general end. Let every one boost and boost together at one time.

It is somewhat seldom one sees an independent position taken upon the vexed question of the church's attitude to the labor world. Extreme views there are in abundance, which are defended with a warmth which often descends to acrimony. Washington Gladden knows the labor world it said as few know it, and his knowledge of it has determined the following recent utterance:

"The conditions of the wage-laborer who stands alone confronting the enormous aggregations of capital now controlling nearly all our industries, and who is compelled to make his own bargains with the employers for the wages on which he subsists, is not very different from that of the slave. There appears to be but one way of salvation open to him. He must combine with his fellow-laborers and collective bargaining must be substituted for individual bargaining. That is the only way in which he can be delivered from penury and bondage. Of course this remedy may involve some very unpleasant experiences. The laboring men thus united are likely to misuse their power. Most people who get power into their hands misuse it more or less. Corporations abuse their power in many nefarious ways. Labor unions are often guilty of grave abuses of power. They make extravagant demands and vexatious rules; they resort to violence. All this is reprehensible and must be resisted and punished. But no system is to be denounced or forbidden because of its abuses. It must be purged of its abuses; it must be held firmly to its purposes. It is the only method by which labor, under the present industrial system, can save itself from degradation and slavery. The laboring classes have a right to the hearty, cordial, outspoken sympathy and support of the Christian church in their endeavors to do this. Their unreason and spite and violence need not be approved, but their central purpose ought to be confirmed and applauded. If the Christian church does not approve of slavery, she ought to say so, in terms which cannot be misunderstood."

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All persons authorized to sell nursery stock in this Province are required by their principals or by themselves to deposit bonds, in the Department of Agriculture, Victoria, B.C., for the faithful performance of their obligations. The public is therefore warned not to purchase nursery stock except from duly licensed persons.

Office of the Board of Horticulture,
Department of Agriculture,
Victoria, 20th July, 1903.

J. R. ANDERSON,
Deputy Minister of Agriculture,
Secretary.

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